

C49 12/27/97

CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD SIX MANHATTAN

330 East 26th Street, New York, NY 10010-1997 (212) 679-0907 Fax 683-3749

Arnold S. Lehman
Chairman

December 15, 1997

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Hon. Robert E. Rubin
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
401 14th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20227

ATTN: Cash Management Policy and Planning Division

RE: The Effect of Electronic Banking
on Medicare, Medicaid,
Social Security and S.S.I.
Recipients

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed please find a resolution passed at this month's
Full Board Meeting concerning the above captioned matter.

If there are questions pertaining to this resolution,
please contact the Board Office at (212) 679-0907.

Sincerely,

Arnold S. Lehman (CAP)
Arnold S. Lehman, Chairman
Community Board Six

Mary McGinn (CAP)
Mary McGinn, Chair
Health, Seniors and Human
Services Committee

cc: Hon. Alfonse D'Amato, U.S. Senate
J.A. Schroder, NYC Committee on Aging, Inc.

EFT
#161

CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD SIX MANHATTAN

330 East 26th Street, New York, NY 10010-1997 (212) 679-0907 Fax 683-3749

December 1997

RE: The Effect of Electronic Banking on Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and S.S.I.

WHEREAS, the Treasury Department has proposed that Social Security and S.S.I. checks no longer be mailed to recipients and only be available by electronic transfer to bank accounts; and

WHEREAS, many poor inner city areas and rural areas lack nearby bank branches, creating physical and financial hardship for frail, ill or disabled people in getting to a bank to get these payments; and

WHEREAS, even where bank branches exist, proposed state banking regulation changes would impose significant financial costs upon the presently "unbanked" elderly, who in New York City have an average income of \$600 a month. A personal "Electronic Transfer Account" and ATM card for a previously "unbanked" person costing \$3.00 a month would also cost an additional \$2 to \$3.00 a month for cashing a check at a "foreign" ATM in some instances. If they withdraw the money at one time, they may lose it all to a mugger but partial withdrawal would increase the ATM costs; and

WHEREAS, these proposed federal and state changes have had very little public notice which has resulted in little real consideration of the impact of these changes upon a poor and vulnerable population, now

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that Community Board Six strongly opposes the ending of mail delivery of Social Security and S.S.I. checks.

PASSED: 21 IN FAVOR, 6 OPPOSED, 1 ABSTENTION AND 1 PRESENT BUT
NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE